**Synthetic drugs in north-east**

3509. SHRI R.P. GOENKA:
SHRI C. APOK JAMIR:
SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report captioned "Drug trade exploding, warn experts" in the Times of India dated 16th February, 2001, highlighting that synthetic drugs, which have already found their way in some parts of North-East India through neighbouring countries, would flood the country shortly and India would be a transit centre for the "Golden Triangle" and the "Golden Creascent" countries; and

(b) if so, the preventive steps taken against India becoming a transit point and the youth getting addicted to and involved in narcotics trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Steps taken by Government to deal with the problem of drug smuggling *inter alia* include intensified patrolling, provision of surveillance equipments including night vigil devices educating youths about evils of drugs, better coordination among security forces for exchange of information and sharing of intelligence/cooperation with neighbouring countries.

**Cases against NRIs**

3510. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Punjab and other States considerable number of NRI men are marrying and deserting women;

(b) how many cases have been filed against such NRI's under the Indian Penal Code; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The information relating